

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SCCT-01 IO-10 EUR-12 OMB-01 SAB-01

NIC-01 EB-07 /089 W

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R 271220Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9053

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2662

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SU LY

SUBJ: PRESIDENT NIMEIRI'S RECENT VISIT TO TRIPOLI

REF: KHARTOUM 2628

1. OUR BRITISH COLLEAGUES SHARED FOLLOWING INFORMATION
WITH US CONCERNING PRESIDENT NIMEIRIS RECENT VISIT
TO TRIPOLI.

2. VISIT STEMMED FROM QADHAFI INITIATIVE REQUESTING
VISIT BY QADHAFI TO SUDAN TO SEE NIMEIRI. AFTER SERIES
OF EXCHANGES, NIMEIRI PERSISTED IN HIS PREFERENCE
OF GOING TO TRIPOLI RATHER THAN HAVE QADHAFI VISIT SUDAN.

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3. QADHAFI TOLD NIMEIRI HE DESIROUS OF BETTER RELATIONS,

REFERRED NOSTALGICALLY TO DAYS OF TRIPOLI PACT, AND EXPRESSED WISH REVIVE SPIRIT OF THOSE DAYS. QADHAFI INDICATED HE APPRECIATED THAT POLITICAL UNION IS NOT A PRACTICAL ISSUE AT PRESENT BUT FELT SUDAN, LIBYA, AND EGYPT COULD INCREASE TIES THROUGH ECONOMIC COOPERATION. QADHAFI'S SPECIFIC ECONOMIC PROPOSALS WERE NOT MADE CLEAR TO BRITISH SOURCE, BUT QADHAFI DID WANT NIMEIRI TO CONVEY QADHAFI'S VIEWS FOR CLOSER COOPERATION TO PRESIDENT SADAT. NIMEIRI REPORTEDLY DID SO.

4. EGYPTIANS AND SUDANESE SUBSEQUENTLY DISCUSSED QADHAFI'S INITIATIVES WITH GREAT SKEPTICISM AND JOINTLY DECIDED THEY WOULD MAINTAIN SURFACE FRIENDSHIP BUT NOT GET INVOLVED IN ANY CONCRETE ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH QADHAFI.

5. COMMENT: INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT SUDANESE PRESS, PRIOR AND DURING NIMEIRI'S VISIT TO LIBYA, SPOKE OF BREAKTHROUGHS IN LIBYAN/SUDANESE RELATIONSHIPS. THIS LEADS TO SPECULATION THAT NIMEIRI HAD HOPES OF ACHIEVING DIPLOMATIC COUP OF RECONCILIATION BETWEEN SUDAN, LIBYA, AND EGYPT AND ENHANCING HIS REPUTATION AS AREA STATESMAN. POSSIBLE THAT SADAT SUBSEQUENTLY CONVINCED NIMEIRI BE CAUTIOUS RE QADHAFI INITIATIVE, OR THE EGYPTIAN CHARGE OF LIBYAN COMPLICITY IN VC-10 HIJACKING DAMPENED NIMEIRI'S HOPES.
BREWER

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